

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 IO-10 EB-07 OMB-01 /076 W
----- 118342

R 211958Z NOV 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4787
SECDEF WASHDC
DA
INFO USCINCEUR
CINCUSAREUR
NSSG SHAPE
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6393

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR NATO
SUBJECT: PREFINANCING OF COLLOCATION COSTS OF RELOCATION OF
CENTAG AND 4ATAF

SECDEF FOR ISA (MILLER, COMPT (KRAFT). DA FOR DACA-ZA.

REF: USAREUR MESSAGE AEAGF-BM, DTG 071600Z NOV 75.

SUMMARY: REFERENCE REFLECTS US INTENTION TO PREFINANCE COSTS
ASSOCIATED WITH RELOCATION OF TWO NATO INTERNATIONAL MILITARY
HEADQUARTERS. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO PROVISION IN 1976 NATO
MILITARY BUDGET TO COVER THESE COSTS. NOR CAN WE DETECT ANY
SHAPE INTENTION TO MODIFY THE BUDGET PRIOR TO ITS APPROVAL
IN MID-DECEMBER. REQUEST GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL (NOTAL), AND IN AN EFFORT TO
PROTECT US INTERESTS, THE MILITARY BUDGET ASPECT OF SUBJECT
AS INTRODUCED IN MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE (MBC) HEARINGS ON
CY 1976 BUDGET AT MEETING ON 18 NOVEMBER 1975. US REP
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(BECKER), NOTING THAT NATO MBC CHANNEL SHOULD BE ADEQUATE
TO ASSURE NATO FINANCING OF NATO REQUIREMENTS IN A PROPER
TIME FRAME, REQUESTED THAT SHAPE PROVIDE A STATEMENT OF FACTS
RELATING TO AUTHORIZATION FOR RELOCATION AND A STATEMENT OF

NATO REQUIREMENTS TO INCLUDE BUDGETARY ASPECTS.

2. THE SHAPE RESPONSE PROVIDED BY FINANCIAL COMPTROLLER (DERNOUCHAMPS) WAS GENERALLY VAGUE ON COORDINATION OF PLANNING BY NATO AND US ELEMENTS, BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT NATO AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT YET APPROVED RELOCATION, THUS REQUIREMENTS ELIGIBLE FOR NATO FUNDING ARE NOT YET ESTABLISHED BY NATO HEADQUARTERS CONCERNED. THE RESPONSE RELUCTANTLY ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULTIES OF PLANNING COORDINATION, BUT PROVIDED NO INDICATION OF SHAPE INTENTIONS TO REQUEST FUNDING FOR RELOCATION COSTS.

3. THE MBC FINANCES CONSTRUCTION ONLY IN ISOLATED INSTANCES; IT HAS NO BODY OF RULES OR CRITERIA FOR PREFINANCING AFTER NOTICE AND NO STAFF TO REVIEW PROJECT'S SCOPE, JUSTIFICATION OR COST ESTIMATES. IT IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL TO THE PROTECTION OF US INTERESTS THAT MAXIMUM EFFORT BE MADE TO COORDINATE WITHIN NATO ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED AND TO USE THE ESTABLISHED NATO FINANCING CHANNEL, ALTHOUGH TO PERMIT EARLY IMPLEMENTATION, PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS MAY JUSTIFY ADVANCING US FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS ONCE THEY ARE APPROVED BY NATO.

4. NOWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE, AND ON BASIS OF LIMITED INFORMATION AVAILABLE, US REP NOTED INTENTION OF US TO PREFINANCE COSTS OF DOLLARS 1.8 MILLION FOR WHICH IT WOULD REQUEST REIMBURSEMENT REQUIRING PROVISION OF NATO FUNDS DURING 1976.

5. IN SHORT DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED, MOST NATIONS QUESTIONED ADVISABILITY OF US ACTION OUTSIDE NORMAL MBC CHANNEL. ALL NOTED THEY WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. THE US STATEMENT WAS, HOWEVER, ENTERED IN THE RECORD.

6. IN REVIEWING RELOCATION COSTS LISTED IN REFERENCE, WE ARE CONCERNED AT LACK OF PROJECT DEFINITION, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SOME ITEMS WOULD NOT SEEM TO QUALIFY FOR MBC FUNDING. IN ADDITION WE ASSUME THAT USAREUR PLAN FOR QUOTE PREFINANCING UNQUOTE RELOCATION COSTS DEPENDS ON PRIOR CONFIDENTIAL

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APPROVAL BY MILITARY COMMITTEE (M/C) OF THE MOVE AND INCLUSION BY MBC OF BUDGET FUNDS TO SUPPORT IT. WHEREAS THE M/C MAY COMPLETE THEIR ACTION SHORTLY, THERE IS NO REQUEST BY CENTAG OR SHAPE FOR RELOCATION FUNDS IN 1976. THEREFORE, FAILING URGENT SHAPE ACTION TO AMEND THE 9176 MILITARY BUDGET, NATO FUNDS WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE 1977. BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO06393
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751189/abbrznit.tel
Line Count: 104
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USAREUR MESSAGE AEAGF-BM, DTG 071600Z NOV 75.
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREFINANCING OF COLLOCATION COSTS OF RELOCATION OF CENTAG AND 4ATAF
TAGS: MARR NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF
DA INFO USCINCEUR
CINCUSAREUR
NSSG SHAPE
USNMR SHAPE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006